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Fig. 1

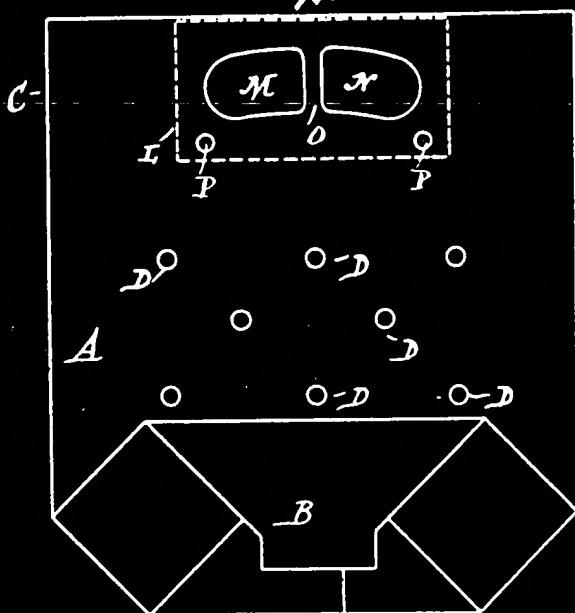


Fig. 2

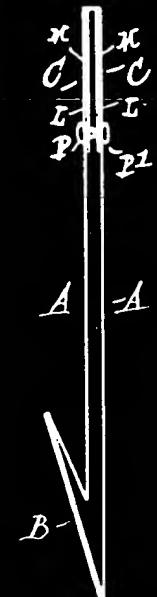


Fig. 4

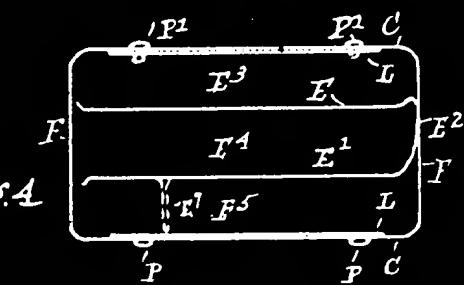
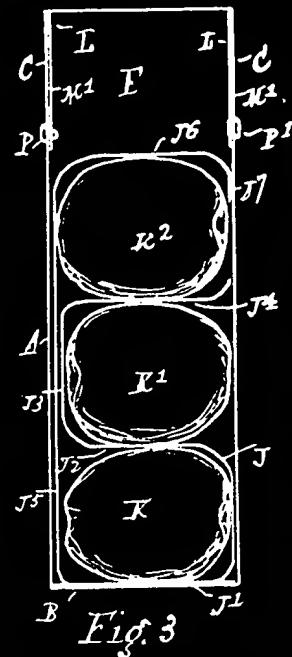
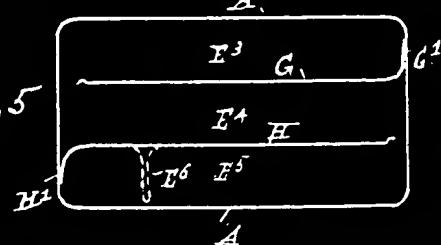


Fig. 5



113,542



Application Date : 19th July, 1940. No. 2757/40.

Applicant (Actual Inventor) ... EDWIN INGLIS LAWFOORD.
Application and Provisional Specification Accepted, 20th August, 1940.
Complete Specification after Provisional Lodged, 19th May, 1941.
Specification ... Accepted, 21st July, 1941.
Acceptance Advertised (Sec. 50) ... 31st July, 1941.

Classes 49.3 ; 57.1 ; 57.8.

Drawing attached.



COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

"Improvements in merchandise sale bags and the like."

I, EDWIN INGLIS LAWFOORD, of Main Road, Doncaster, Victoria, Commonwealth of Australia, Managing Director, hereby declare this invention, and the manner in which it is to be performed, to be fully described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

This invention comprises improvements in bags especially shop bags of paper in which fruit or other merchandise is packed for delivery to customers for carrying away. Most ordinary bags of this kind are treated as useless when emptied, but my improved bags are worth using repeatedly, not only to enable goods to be conveniently carried from the original shop, but for subsequent shopping, and generally. Fruit, for example, can be retained in my bags in good condition. All paper bags known to me, hitherto used, fall short of possessing all advantages characterizing bags made according to my invention.

I use the word "bags" for brevity in this specification, but my invention applies to containers made of various materials, including paper, textile material, cardboard, and so on, of various sizes and shapes.

I provide bags with, or in some cases without, ventilation apertures, and with tops made to constitute a handle. These tops are in some cases provided with closing means, though they will be closed together when the handle sides are gripped by a user. The closing means, however, are also useful to guard fruit (for example) in the bags from entry of foreign matter as dust, and to facilitate comfortable carrying.

In many cases goods bagged are bulky, and when filling ordinary bags do not allow the bag tops to close, so that not only can dust enter, goods can fall out, and comfortable carrying is prevented.

My bags when ready for use are, as usual, flat with their sides meeting, but when the

sides are spaced apart by goods, the tops are at will held together by suitable means, as ordinary brass paper fasteners, press buttons, studs, staples, clips, or so on, the elements of the fastenings being easily separable at will by hand.

Such a bag with its top closed would remain closed if the loaded bag were placed on its side.

10 Each bag side near the top is both stiffened and reinforced by patches of suitable material, as flat cardboard or textile, and in each side where it is reinforced a pair of transverse apertures, or one wide 15 aperture, is made to admit fingers of the hand of a person carrying the bag.

The material left between two apertures which are abreast of one another acts in addition to the reinforcement as a guard 20 against the bag top tearing away when the load is heavy.

Goods put in my bags should not reach as high as the bases of the apertures, as it is necessary that the tops of the sides shall 25 meet flatly or nearly so even when the bags are loaded, to allow of comfortable hand grip, and to help exclude foreign matter.

A person carrying my improved bag by using the hand holes, can easily hold the 30 bag top horizontal, or at will can tilt the bag. Having two apertures in each side of a bag facilitates holding the loaded bag in various positions, and facilitates balancing the weight in the bag. It also 35 facilitates apples, for example, being carried with a minimum of friction on one another. Ordinary shop bags of goods when carried about are often carelessly held, and much friction occurs, the paper receiving, and 40 yielding easily to pressure which would injure goods as fruit in the bags.

I provide in my bags at will one or more internal tongues or partitioning means to enable apples, peaches, eggs, bottles, or so 45 on, in the bag to be kept separate at their sides, and in some cases altogether, from others.

When the bags are awaiting filling, part of the, or of each, partition is fixed, but 50 the greater part is adjustable. Partitions have not hitherto been used having parts fixed in flexible paper shop bags so that by adjustment of unfixed parts, there will be protection from deterioration of such goods 55 as fruit.

I do not use hessian as an outer material of bagging, nor padding material to line the hessian, but I may use padding in conjunction with my adjustable partitioning.

In drawings herewith Figure 1 is a front view of one style of an unopened bag according to this invention.

Figure 2 is a diagrammatic end view, in vertical section, of the bag of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a view of the said bag in 10 vertical section, with the sides spaced apart by goods as apples, shown divided from one another by partitioning, the bag being ready to have the tops of its sides brought together for hand gripping through apertures in the 15 said tops.

Figure 4 is a plan in horizontal section through the reinforced top of the bag, and with the bag mouth distended, there being partitioning to separate the, or some of the 20 contained goods from others.

Figure 5 is similar to Figure 4 except that it is in horizontal section through a part of the bag below the reinforcements, and except that there is different partitioning. 25

In the drawings, A represents bag sides. B one form of bag bottom which before the bag is used lies flat against the side, instead of slightly clear as in Figure 2.

It is not essential that bags have, when 30 loaded, flat bottoms, but such are often preferable.

C shows the bag top, D are ventilation holes in the bag sides—these in practice having any desired positions, number, sizes, 35 and shapes.

E, E₁, are vertical partitioning strips or sheets, attached to the bag interior, as at the end E₂ by any suitable means. These partitions before use lie against the bag 40 sides A, A, and may be allowed to remain there as long as they are not required to divide the bag into two or more separate areas, such as E₃, E₄, and E₅, according to the areas in which fruit or other goods 45 will be located when the bag is being loaded. Positions which will be given to partitioning being variable. Thus some partitions will be left fairly straight, as illustrated in Figures 4 and 5, to suit small soft fruits. 50 At will parts of partitions are doubled or creased to divide goods, as fruits, laterally from one another, in any area, as E₃ to E₅ —there being doubling illustrated by broken lines E₆, E₇ in respective spaces E₅. 55

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Spaces **E3**, **E4**, and **E5**, are in Figure 5 shown separated by separate partitions **G**, **H**, each secured to an interior surface of the bag, for example to respective bag ends **G1** and **H1**.

The partitioning shown in Figure 3 is one having a sheet or strip **J** adhered to the bag as at **J1** (inside the bottom), and with successive foldings **J2**, **J3**, **J4**; this strip is 10 at will located so that it separates apples, for example, from one another in a vertical direction, while by another partitioning strip **J5**, with or without making folds **J6**, and **J7**, further separation, or protection 15 of goods, can be effected. This portion **J5** shown mainly in contact with the bag side **A**, could be brought away therefrom and thus allow placing of goods between that side and strip **J5** in which in addition any 20 desired folds would, for separating purposes, be made.

Units of goods are illustrated at **K**, **K1**, and **K2**.

The bag sides at their tops are provided 25 with reinforcing patches **L** of strong stiff material, fixed in position by, for example, adhesive. Through these patches and the adjacent parts of the bag sides, apertures as **M**, **N**, Figure 1, are made, or wide single 30 apertures as **M1**, Figure 3.

Between the apertures of the pair **M**, **N**, is a pillar **O** integral with the patches and corresponding pillars are in the bag sides. There is thus obviated the danger that the 35 top edge of the bag when the bag is gripped by hand, and when the contents of the bag are heavy, would tear off or break during carriage.

To temporarily fasten the top of each 40 side together, when required by the user, I provide at will means, (such as pronged clips, or, as illustrated, press studs **P**, **P1**, Figure 2, though cases will arise when it will not be desired to have the assistance 45 of any fastening, since the hand hold through the apertures will keep the bag closed.)

Partitioning material may vary, but 50 paper is useful for general use. Textile, as hessian, is however very serviceable in some cases, as it readily takes any shape required to suit the goods, and it also allows of ventilation by which fruit, for example, can be prevented from being overheated.

In some cases I provide a plurality of partitions abreast laterally, as will be readily understood, though they are not illustrated. When partition tops initially extend high, they can be folded down as at **J6** and will 5 not obstruct apertures for hand gripping. In many bags tops of partitions are sufficiently high when they do not reach above bases of the reinforcements or apertures.

Partitions which extend the width of the 10 bag, or nearly so, are serviceable, but greater adjustability is, to protect some goods, desirable, and with that object I provide a plurality of transverse partitions abreast—or partitions transversely abreast—of one 15 another, or overlapping. These allow articles in the bag to be more effectively separated from one another than by single partitions.

At will I modify the bag structure in 20 obvious other ways—with the ambit of my claims. Thus instead of having an integral strengthening pillar **O** between separate apertures **M**, **N**, I use at will in relation to wide apertures, means of separation of said 25 apertures into two parts like **M** and **N**. These separating means are permanently adhered to the bag, and may consist of tapes. They provide the top of the bag over the apertures with such support that said top 30 will not break away under the stress of the weight of goods in the bag when the loaded bag is being carried about. Since preparing the foregoing I learn of Patent No. 108,838, and now state that I claim nothing therein 35 described or claimed.

Having now fully described and ascertained my said invention, and the manner in which it is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

1. A bag of the kind set forth, apertured at its top to allow of hand gripping the bag top for carrying purposes—with or without apertures in the bag body for ventilation, and with one or more adjustable partitioning 45 members, the or each member having a part fixed to the base, or to a side of the bag, leaving the remainder of the or each member adjustable to protect goods in the bag as described.

2. A bag according to Claim 1, and in which two apertures located abreast of one another are in each bag side, with between them a pillar to enable the aperture tops

to resist being broken by stresses due to the weight of goods in the bag when the latter is carried about.

3. A bag according to Claim 2 but in which instead of the pillars between apertures there is in each side one wide aperture the middle of which is crossed from top to bottom by a tape or equivalent member fixed so that it enables the bag top over each aperture to resist being broken away by weight in the bag.

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4. A bag according to any preceding Claim, and in which there is partitioning adhered to the bag interior and located as described relatively to Figure 3, Figure 4, or Figure 5.

Dated this 17th day of May, 1941.

G. G. TURRI & Co.,

Patent Attorney for Applicant.

Witness—Frances Hilda Sayers.

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